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Central Florida Future

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Dynamic trio

Three Knights shine in the backcourt as UCF prepares for '07-08 — SEE SPORTS, A9



Valuable players
Two dozen education alumni recognized at reception — SEE NEWS, A2



ANIMALS

MICH. COUPLE GETS CAUGHT IN COW STORM



A Michigan couple visiting Washington state was driving back to their hotel when a falling object crashed onto their roof. The object: a 600-pound cow. Charles and Linda Everson were unhurt but the cow, which fell from a cliff 200 feet up, had to be euthanized. The crash caused heavy damage to the minivan.

ANIMALS

THIS LITTLE PIGGIE WENT TO SURGERY



An animal cruelty charge has been filed against the caretaker of a pig whose weight nearly tripled under her care. Michelle Schmitz, the owner of the pig, Alaina, said the five-year-old pig went from her normal 50 pounds to 150 pounds in just nine months. The pig is recovering from surgery to remove a collar that had become embedded in her overly fat neck.

AROUND CAMPUS, A2

DIFFICULT DISCUSSIONS HOLDS FORUM TODAY IN STUDENT UNION

Office of Diversity Initiatives will be continuing the Difficult Discussions series with a forum titled "Let's Talk About Sex, Baby!" The talk is in regards to UCF's recent failing sexual health report card. The forum will be held today from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

LOCAL & STATE, A2

FLORIDA TEACHER SHOT OUTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL, EXPECTED TO SURVIVE

A teacher was shot outside a Miami-area high school during an apparent robbery, a school district spokesman said. The suspected shooter had not been captured, and at least a dozen officers in SWAT gear were staking out an apt. complex near the school.

NATION & WORLD, A4

MEXICO LANDSLIDE HITS REMOTE VILLAGE, AT LEAST 16 DEAD

Rescue officials were searching for more than a dozen missing people Tuesday after a landslide slammed into a rain-swollen river, wiping out a tiny hamlet in southern Mexico. At least 16 people were reported missing.

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TODAY'S WEATHER



College of Nursing accredited again

CCNE awards maximum 10-year period

ROBYN SIDERSKY
Staff Writer

The College of Nursing has been accredited for the next 10 years by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. It's not the first time the school has been accredited; it was as a school and as a program, but this time, the college received the maximum period

of accreditation with "no issues or concerns."

"It's a great achievement and it's an important milestone for the college," said College of Nursing Dean Jean Leuner.



Leuner

The nursing school became UCF's 11th college in July.

Leuner was excited that the college received the highest achievement possible in becoming accredited.

"It's very important when you can obtain the total amount of years for accreditation," Leuner said.

The college has been going

through the accreditation process for more than a year. The commission visited the college in March and spent several days reviewing the program and interviewing faculty, students, alumni, staff, administrators and members of partner organizations, such as Orlando Regional Medical Center and Florida Hospital.

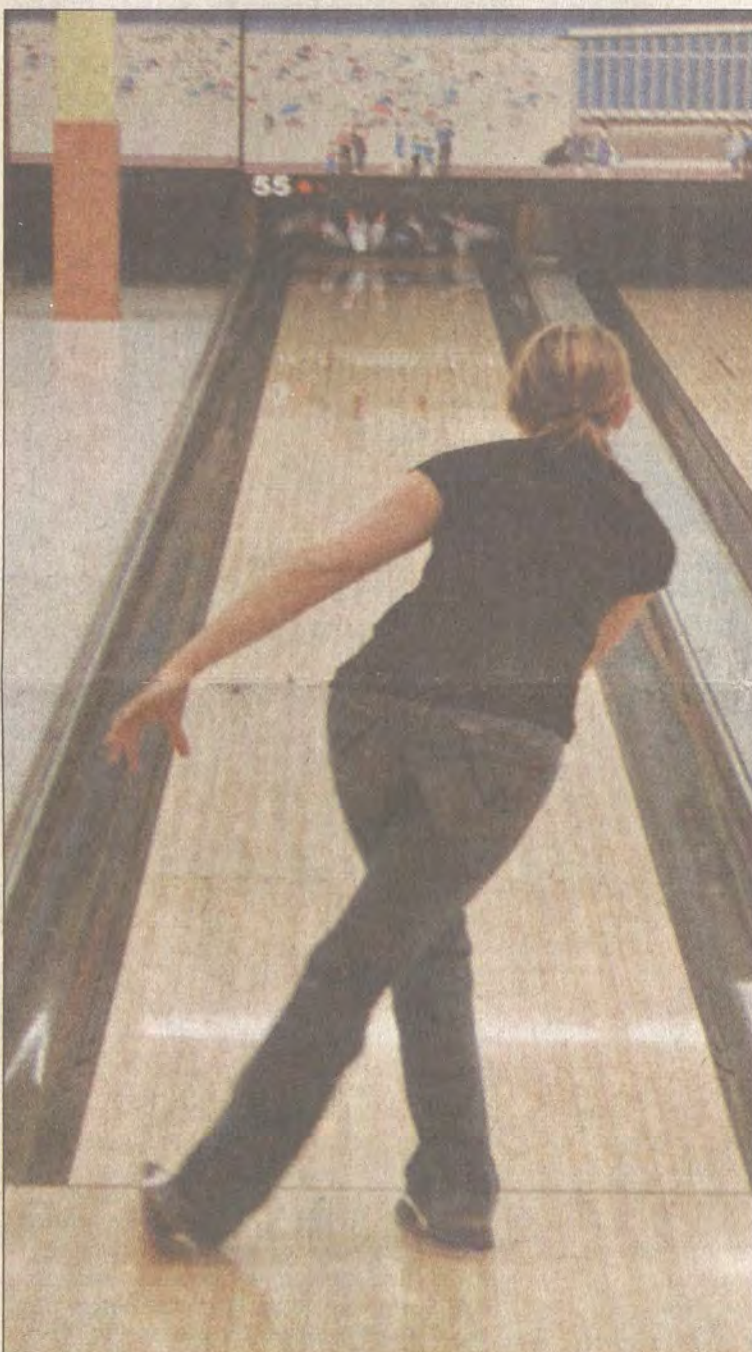
Senior nursing major Allison Gallagher, the president of the Student Nurses Association at UCF, was selected as

one of the students to be interviewed during the accrediting process.

"They interviewed us and we didn't know what the college has submitted," Gallagher said. "They asked us about our experience and made sure it matched what the school said."

Earning accreditation is a huge honor for the school and it will help students when

PLEASE SEE STUDENTS ON A5



UCF graduate student Stefanie Nation has been bowling for 17 years and is one of 16 women who qualified to compete in the Professional Bowlers Association's Women Series that continues through November. Nation, 23, has bowled four perfect games, with her first 300-point game bowled at the age of 15. She currently boasts an average of 229.

Grad. student bowls for Team USA

KARI WILBERG
Contributing Writer

A UCF graduate student and world-class bowler is living her dream in places all over the world.

Stefanie Nation, who was named Player of the Year in 2006 by the United States Bowling Congress, left Orlando with 15 other bowlers as part of the first women's tour since the Professional Women's Bowling Association ended in 2003.

The tour is sponsored by

the USBC and the Professional Bowlers Association is hoping it will develop into a series, similar to other tours.

The team will first head to Michigan and later will visit New York, Indiana and Maryland. Although this is not a nationwide tour, Nation has been looking forward to it her entire life and hopes it will lead to a larger tour later on.

The tour will last all through November, and will air on ESPN2 on Sundays.

Nation, 23, started bowling at the age of 6, but did not

become serious about it until her high school years. She played other sports until she knew her passion rested with bowling, but once she became serious, she made it her life.

"Stefanie is not the athlete who can do every sport," said Pat Costello, Nation's coach of nine years. "But when it comes to bowling, she has formed herself into an elite athlete."

Costello is also the coach of the UCF bowling team.

Nation has bowled four perfect games, with her first 300-point game bowled at the

age of 15. She currently has an average of 229.

Nation only applied to one college. She said that it was UCF's bowling team that lured her here.

"I knew that I wanted to bowl for college and take it to the next level," Nation said.

As part of Team USA, Nation was part of the team that placed second at the world championships. More than 30 countries competed in the world championships.

Despite not taking the win, Nation said that her team is

PLEASE SEE NATION ON A7

Bowling FOR NATION



ASHLEY KOEHLER / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Mitt's bus visits UCF

Romney's son stops by Monday

ROBYN SIDERSKY
Staff Writer



COREY MAYNARD / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
Craig Romney, Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney's son, visits UCF.

Republican Mitt Romney's presidential campaign bus made an unplanned stop at UCF on Monday.

While the presidential hopeful himself didn't make an appearance, his son, Craig, drove the bus.

This stop was the 60th stop on the bus's tour of Florida and has seven stops to go until it has hit all 67 counties in Florida.

"We're just spreading the message," Craig Romney said.

The basis of the tour is Romney's five sons touring the country on the bus helping him in his presidential campaign.

The tour has passed through all the counties in Iowa and New Hampshire

PLEASE SEE POTENTIAL ON A8

100 homeless fed every Mon.

WHITNEY HAMRICK
Staff Writer

UCF students feed an average of 100 homeless people every Monday at the old downtown Orlando Post Office, on the corner of Jefferson Street and Magnolia Avenue.

A large group-feeding ordinance enacted July 2006 prohibits groups exceeding 25 people to gather in any of Orlando's parks or within two miles of City Hall without a permit, which is only avail-

able twice a year to each group. The Post Office is outside of the two-mile radius and does not qualify as a park.

The vacant windows of the Post Office shed light over the crowd of homeless as they occupy the steps, benches and sidewalks feasting on a full meal seldom enjoyed in life on the streets.

"The beginning of the month is usually slower because that's when they get their checks," said Rock for Hunger President Chris

Goyzueta, 25, who will be returning to UCF in the spring for a master's degree in public relations.

"It was busier for the first Monday of the month," said Greg Rollett, 25, UCF alumnus. "We weren't expecting this much."

The only place to feed the homeless within the two-mile radius is called Sylvia Lane, a gated parking lot lined with barbed wire and pad-



GREGORY TERRITO / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
The Rock for Hunger volunteers pose with Pastor Brian Nichols (center, bandanna) to celebrate another successful feast on Monday night outside of the Orlando Post Office.

PLEASE SEE HOMELESS ON A5

AROUND CAMPUS

News and notices for the UCF community

Difficult Discussions holds forum

Office of Diversity Initiatives will be continuing the Difficult Discussions series with a forum titled "Let's Talk About Sex, Baby!" The talk is in regards to UCF's recent failing sexual health report card.

The forum will be held today from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Key West Ballroom of the Student Union. For more information contact medavid@mail.ucf.edu.

Health Services holds meeting

The Health Services Administration Student Association will be holding its November meeting tonight at 6 p.m. in Room 247 of the Health and Public Affairs Building.

Career Services will be joining the meeting to discuss job search strategies, resume pointers and job interview techniques.

Orlando Film Festival features UCF

More than 30 alumni and faculty from UCF's film and theater departments were involved in making *The Karaoke King*, which will be screened at the Orlando Film Festival Thursday. The screening is scheduled for 3 p.m. and will be held at the CityArts Factory in Downtown Orlando.

LOCAL & STATE

Keep local with headlines you may have missed

Fla. teacher shot outside area high school during apparent robbery

MIAMI — A teacher was shot Tuesday outside at a Miami-area high school during an apparent robbery, but was expected to survive, a school district spokesman said.

The suspected shooter had not been captured, and at least a dozen officers in SWAT gear were staking out an apartment complex near the school.

Police had sealed off all the complex's exits and a police helicopter was hovering above.

Carol City elementary, middle and senior high schools were on lockdown, said Quintin Taylor, a spokesman for Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

"No students inside the school have been injured," he said.

The male teacher was shot in the lower body, said Taylor. The hospital where he was being treated, Jackson Memorial Hospital, did not release his condition.

The teacher had been taking a cigarette break across the street from the school during lunch when he was confronted by another man who tried to rob him, Taylor said.

A 911 call reported the shooting before noon at Miami Carol City Senior High School, Miami-Dade Police Detective Alvaro Zabaleta said.

State renews contract with agency that lost foster child

TAMPA — The state has renewed its contract with a community-based agency partially blamed for losing track of a 2-year-old foster child.

The Sarasota Family YMCA gets another one-year contract to oversee foster care and adoptions in Sarasota, Manatee and DeSoto counties.

But as part of the deal, the YMCA agreed to give up its contract for services in Pinellas and Pasco counties.

The state Department of Children & Families said the YMCA was partially to blame for losing track of 2-year-old foster child Courtney Clark, whose disappearance wasn't reported by child protection workers for four months.

The child was eventually found safe in Wisconsin.

Loggerhead turtle nests lower in 2007 than in past years

WEST PALM BEACH — The number of loggerhead turtle nests was substantially lower in 2007 than in past years, according to preliminary numbers from scientists statewide.

Scientists found 28,500 nests from 19 surveyed beaches, down from almost 50,000 last year.

PLEASE SEE **LOCAL** ON A4

Three decades of GREATNESS



The College of Education held a ceremony and dinner, in the Torch Clark Gym in the Education complex, to honor alumni on Oct. 19 as a part of its 40th anniversary celebration. Twenty-four Alumni of the Decade recipients were chosen over a six month period. Committee members chose people from three separate decades: '70s, '80s, '90s.

24 education alumni chosen

NICOLE STANCEL
Staff Writer

The College of Education continued its 40th anniversary celebration by honoring 24 of its own as Alumni of the Decade recipients.

The committee of education faculty and alumni spent six months selecting the recipients, who were chosen from three decades of classes from the 1970s to the 1990s.

While the committee did not have specific criteria in looking for winners, it did single out individuals who enjoyed success in their careers, regardless of the career chosen.

However, many of the winners did continue in education after graduation. Other merits for the award included giving back to the community and the university, said Rich Sloane, director of community and college relations at the College of Education.

"We purposely did not look at the current decade that we're in, 2000 and up, because that decade isn't complete yet," Sloane said. "So the accomplishments of our graduates during that time frame are people who are fairly young and new. It would be rather unusual for someone who graduated so early to make a significant mark. Not to say that some haven't already done that."

On Oct. 19, more than 270 people attended the dinner and ceremony to honor the alumni in the Torch Clark Gym in the College of Education complex.

Sandra Robinson, dean of the College of Education, presented each recipient with an engraved crystal award along with a certificate signifying each honor.

"I felt very humble receiving my award," said Silvia Zapico, provost of Valencia Community College Osceola Campus and 1990 decade alumna.

Zapico began her college career at Miami Dade Community College where she learned to speak English.

"UCF taught me how to teach," Zapico said.

She received her award for her work with the Creating Opportunities and

ALUMNI OF THE DECADE

1970

Barbara Barry
Roger Dearing
Nancy Fuleihan
Kathleen "Kat" Gordon
Mildred Kennedy
Candace Parker Dearing
Russ Salerno
Georgina Sanchez Williams
Mary Scott
Eric J. Smith

1980

Michael O'Shaughnessy, Jr.
Artie Almeida
Richard Ellenburg
Rony Francois
Alan Gooch
Paul "Van" Mitchell
Blaine Muse
Larry Shyers

1990

Silvia Zapico
Juanita Hernandez-Black
Joseph Joyner
David Rock
Kristen Springfield
James Stofan

Resources for Educators program. CORE is a program that involves VCC, UCF, the Osceola County Education Foundation and the Osceola school district to plan curriculum for students who begin at VCC and graduate with an education degree from UCF.

Another award recipient, Michael O'Shaughnessy, Jr., a 1981 physical education alumnus, taught middle school science for one year before changing his career altogether to manage two investment companies.

"The transfer value of my education that allowed me to succeed in different non-education areas was the organization that teachers learn while they're in school," O'Shaughnessy said. "Teachers are very highly valuable in the entrepreneur and corporate world when they transfer over because of their organizational ability."

O'Shaughnessy also received his award for his participation in the Millennium Woman Foundation, a charitable organization that awards education scholarships to single-parent women nationwide. The organization also promotes positive economic and social empowerment for women through education.

He is the author of *Millennium Woman: A Guideline to Personal Security and Financial Prosperity for Today's Woman*; an Ironman triathlete and Guinness World Record holder for the fastest crossing of the English Channel on a paddleboard, achievements that round out his resume.

The committee is already looking forward to the college's 50th anniversary events.

"We've even discussed that what

we're doing now is setting a mark, a standard, a baseline for those celebrations that we might look forward to with the 50th anniversary," Sloane said.

Other events included in the 40th anniversary are a research symposium, scheduled for Jan. 31 and a culmination ceremony to celebrate partnerships on April 2. For more information log onto <http://40.education.ucf.edu>.

Other 1990 distinguished alumni

•Juanita Hernandez-Black, the president and chief executive officer of the Mental Health Association of Central Florida.

•Joseph Joyner, the superintendent of schools in St. Johns County who now serves as president of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents.

•David Rock, dean and professor of math education at Columbus State University's College of Education.

•Kristen Springfield, a teacher at Sanford Middle School, a math, science and technology Magnet School.

•James Stofan, NASA's current Deputy Assistant Administrator for Education Programs.

Other distinguished 1980 alumni

•Artie Almeida, the music specialist at Seminole County's Bear Lake Elementary School, who has also taught at UCF and Valencia and Seminole community colleges.

•Richard Ellenburg is an elementary science-lab teacher and Florida Teacher of the Year recipient.

•Rony Francois served as Florida's

PLEASE SEE **SOME** ON A8

Central Florida Future

The Student Newspaper at UCF since 1968

November 7, 2007
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NEWSROOM
407-447-4558

Editor-in-Chief
Melissa Heyboer x213
editor@CentralFloridaFuture.com

News Editors
Jenny Andreasson and
Matt Morrison x213
news@CentralFloridaFuture.com

Opinions Editor
Natalie Morera x213
opinions@CentralFloridaFuture.com

Sports Editor
Padrick Brewer x215
sports@CentralFloridaFuture.com

Variety Editor
Corinne Schuler x214
variety@CentralFloridaFuture.com

Photo Editor
Andy Jacobsohn
photo@CentralFloridaFuture.com

Staff Writers
Brandon Bielich, Richard Bilbao,
Donald Thomann, William Goss,
Whitney Hamrick, Mary Knowles, Jennifer
Larino, Lauren Paulauskas, Jeffrey Riley,
Zaileen Roach, Amanda K. Shapiro,
Robyn Sidersky, Jessica Sunday, Tara Young

Copy Editors
Jennifer Heimburg, Brian Murphy,
Jamie Salmasian, Megan Speer

Staff Photographers
Brian Bustos, Vanessa Ezeta,
Shanna Fortier, Jennifer Heimburg,
Rayma Jenkins, Ashley Koehler,
Amanda Moore, Tej Okun,
Nicole Stancel, Gregory Territo

Editorial Cartoonist
Spain Fischer

Graphic Artists
Maya Borenstien, Cara Cooper,
Joseph Mangabat, Brad Walkover

Editorial Adviser
Abraham Aboraya
adviser@CentralFloridaFuture.com

BUSINESS
407-447-4555

Advertising Sales Director
Mark Lanaris x204
MarkL@KnightNewspapers.com

University Sales Director
Heissam Jebailey x201
HeissamJ@KnightNewspapers.com

Classifieds Sales Director
Trisha Irwin x212
TrishaI@KnightNewspapers.com

Distribution Manager
Ryan McDonald x211
RyanM@KnightNewspapers.com

General Manager
Raymond G. Bush x220
RayB@KnightNewspapers.com

Fax: 407-447-4556

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LOCAL WEATHER



Today
SUNNY

High: 70°
Low: 50°

TODAY IN DETAIL

Today: Sunny with a high near 70. North wind around 15 mph.
Tonight: Mostly clear with a low around 50. North wind around 10 mph.



Thursday
MOSTLY SUNNY

High: 74°
Low: 52°

Friday
SUNNY

High: 73°
Low: 49°

New King gets the most out of UCF

Scott Kirkman, an accounting and finance major and member of Kappa Sigma, urges students to get involved on campus

ROBYN SIDERSKY
Staff Writer

For senior accounting and finance major Scott Kirkman, the past week of Homecoming events has a special meaning. The student body voted him the 2007 Homecoming King.

Kirkman was nominated by his fraternity, Kappa Sigma.

"It feels pretty awesome," Kirkman said. "It's a tremendous honor to be chosen to be the king."

Kirkman has been extremely involved in campus activities in his time at UCF, from being a brother in Kappa Sigma, to being on the orientation team for a summer, to starting Sigma Alpha Pi, a leadership fraternity.

"In high school I was really involved with a variety of organizations and when I came to UCF from a small high school, I wanted to take those steps to get involved and not be a number in the vast sea of students," Kirkman said. "I wanted to establish a name for myself and become a name and not just a number."

In his first semester, Kirkman got involved with the Honors Congress and joined committees in the Burnett Honors College. This was his first exposure to Homecoming, where he was a part of the Honors Congress skit for Skit Knight.

He also joined his fraternity, Kappa Sigma, and took on leadership positions through that.

He has been the treasurer, the new member educator

and served as the Interfraternity Council's vice president of recruitment. He was also a part of the first Greek Council as an at-large voting delegate.

His involvement with his fraternity and other on-campus organization caught the eye of his Kappa Sigma brothers.

"He's our crown jewel of a member," said junior information technology major Ryan Dourney, the Homecoming Chair for Kappa Sigma.

Over the summer Kirkman won the undergraduate brother of the year for the southeast region, Dourney said.

Dourney said the choice was clear cut about Kirkman's nomination for King.

"He's leaps and bounds ahead of everyone else," Dourney said.

Kirkman is currently a resident assistant in the Libra community. He's had his hands in other aspects of the campus, such as being a senator for Student Government for a summer and being a team leader in the Honors College.

In the past he's competed as Mr. UCF and the closest he's come to winning is being the runner-up.

Kirkman was adamant about passing on the message that students get involved.

"I've always been a strong supporter of involvement on campus as a way to supplement the college experience," Kirkman said.

Kirkman has served on the President's Leadership Coun-

cil for the past few years and now serves as the vice chair.

He said his favorite thing about being on the Council was interacting with the other students on it.

"I've been learning from them, listening to their experiences and gaining as much from them as possible," he said.

His advice to somebody that wants to be King one day is to be persistent and take advantage of a lot of opportunities and establish a name for yourself in one aspect or another as a well-rounded student who is involved on campus, supports the university and shows pride in the university.

As an accounting and finance major, Kirkman has had two internships in the College of Business.

"I decided to explore involvement opportunities outside my major focus to give me a variety of different experiences," Kirkman said. "Throughout classes and internships, I got exposure to accounting and I got to interact with people who shared the same interests. Beyond the classroom, I got to explore other areas of interest that appealed to me."

Although Kirkman doesn't do a lot with the College of Business, he has very defined goals for what he wants to do with his life.

"I'm planning to work in one of the four big accounting firms in either Miami or Atlanta," Kirkman said. "I'll work for three to four years and after that go to law school and do a juris doctor-



ANDY JACOBSON / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
UCF Homecoming King 2007 Scott Kirkman is congratulated by Homecoming Queen 2007 Julie Zimmerman at halftime at Saturday's Homecoming football game against Marshall. Kirkman has been involved in campus organizations since his first semester at UCF.

ate and master's of business administration dual degree program."

Kirkman said he's always been a worry-wart and tries to plan things out for the future.

"If you go through your first couple of years without your view toward the future,

when you get to your senior year and don't know what you're going to do after graduation, you're not going to feel prepared," he said.

After a week of attending event after event, Kirkman can relax, because he knows his hard work has paid off.

He said he wanted to thank his brothers in Kappa Sigma and the ladies of Alpha Xi Delta and all of his friends for their support over the past week. He said he really appreciates everything that they did and couldn't ask for better friends.

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Dear Faculty Member,

The Arbor Day Foundation is continuing to strengthen our stand in support of the environment by partnering with college bookstores across the country to plant 100,000 trees for all used textbooks bought or sold this year. Throughout the year, students will be voting online to determine which forest the trees will be planted in.

College Book and Supply, our supporter at University of Central Florida, has long been an advocate of recycling textbooks with their used textbook program. As you know, the buying and selling of used "recycled" textbooks, unlike new textbooks, is no additional cost to the environment and much more affordable for your students.

This year College Book and Supply will donate a portion of each transaction that includes a used "recycled" textbook to the Arbor Day Foundation to plant trees. The 'Buy a Book, Build a Forest' campaign is a wonderful way to involve college students in planting trees and improving the environment. The trees planted will greatly benefit the forest by adding beauty and wildlife habitat, cleaning the air, preventing soil erosion, and protecting waterways.

We need your help to reach our goal of planting 100,000 trees. It is our understanding that as a faculty member, you have the unique opportunity to select the reading requirements for the coming semester; you ultimately decide whether to bring in a new text or adopt the same texts from the previous semester. We know that utilizing the highest quality and most up-to-date educational materials is your first priority, and we encourage you to accomplish this with used textbooks whenever possible.

We are asking you to include used "recycled" textbooks on your list if possible. By readopting your textbooks, you will guarantee a greater supply of less expensive used "recycled" textbooks for your students while helping the environment at the same time.

We greatly appreciate your consideration in reusing your textbooks and ask that you please submit your textbook adoption as early as possible to ensure College Book and Supply can buy back the used textbooks for the coming semester.

On behalf of the Arbor Day Foundation and the countless supporters of creating a healthier planet, thank you so much for your support.

Sincerely,

John Rosenow
Chief Executive

Difficult Discussions Presents:

"Let's Talk About SEX, Baby!"

UCF's Sexual Health Awareness Report Card

Student Health Center Hours of Operation, Drop-ins, Appointments?	A
Sexual Awareness Programs?	C
Contraceptives, Condoms Availability?	F
HIV testing (on/off site, \$)	C
STD testing (on/off site, \$)	D
Anonymous advice via e-mail / newspaper	B
Lecture / outreach programs	C
Student Peer Groups	F
Sexual Assault Programs	F
Sexual Awareness Content on Health Center Web site	F
Overall GPA:	1.45

Wednesday November 7, 2007



2 P.M.



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA
OFFICE OF DIVERSITY INITIATIVES

Student Union Room 218D

LOCAL & STATE

FROM A2

The number was so low that this could be the lowest nesting year on record for loggerheads, said Blair Witherington, a research scientist with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

The turtles' nesting numbers have declined in at least four of the past seven years.

Green and leatherback turtles, however, surpassed scientists' expectations and may have made a record number of nests this year on Florida's Treasure Coast.

Scientists aren't sure what's behind the low numbers for loggerheads, but they have some theories.

Erik Martin, a biologist who monitors nesting, said the answer could lie in an unknown event that happened 30 years ago when today's nesting females were hatchlings — something like a disease or harmful algae bloom that affected only loggerheads.

A drop in nesting numbers may not correlate to a drop in population, said Pete Quincy, a scientist who monitors nesting for Jupiter Island.

"Maybe there is a biological cycle among these turtles that we know nothing about."

Scientists have been tracking nesting for about 30 years.

This year, they counted about 9,450 green turtle nests — up from the previous high of 7,180 in 2005 — in addition to 517 leatherback nests, up from the previous high of 367 in 2001.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

HIGHER EDUCATION

What's in the news at colleges around the country

Students converge on Capitol to lobby climate change action

Thousands of college students descended on Capitol Hill on Monday to press Congress for more action on the issue of climate change.

Several testified at a hearing, and many more, representing more than 500 colleges, held a rally and met with members of Congress to discuss issues like carbon emissions and fuel efficiency.

The "lobby day" events capped off Power Shift 2007, a national conference that drew about 6,000 students to the University of Maryland at College Park over the weekend. Several foundations and organizations, including Greenpeace and Rock the Vote, sponsored the event, which was organized by members of the Energy Action Coalition, an alliance of about three dozen activist groups.

Students at the conference led workshops on campus organizing, fund raising, and lobbying, among other topics.

At some points, there were more than 100 sessions at once, with rooms packed beyond capacity.

Some students sported long skirts and T-shirts dotted with pins; others looked spiffy in argyle sweaters and dark suits. They chatted about the day's meetings as well as other pressing concerns.

When Monday came, students arrived in Washington ready to take action.

"This is one of the largest outpourings of young people to D.C. on one issue in recent memory," said Maura Cowley, an organizer for the Sierra Student Coalition.

With help from the U.S. Public Interest Research Group and related state groups, conference organizers scheduled about 400 lobby visits for students.

"What we want our congressmen and women to know is that we are powerful, we are here to stay, and we are increasing in number," said Gabriel Elsner, a junior at the University of California at Berkeley. "This weekend is just the start of something huge."

NATION & WORLD

Keep current with headlines from around the globe



POLICIA FEDERAL / ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this image released by Mexico's Policia Federal Preventiva, rescuers from the Mexican Red Cross look for survivors after a landslide hit a Mexican town Monday.

Mexico landslide devastates remote village, at least 16 dead

OSTUACAN, Mexico — Rescue officials were searching for more than a dozen missing people Tuesday after a landslide slammed into a rain-swollen river, wiping out a tiny hamlet in southern Mexico.

At least 16 people were reported missing in the village, the latest victims of widespread flooding and heavy rains across Mexico and Central America.

In Honduras, authorities were evacuating dozens of people on the Atlantic coast and at least two people drowned in floodwaters, including a 2-year-old boy swept away by a raging river.

Residents of San Juan Grijalva said they were awakened late Sunday by a rumbling roar and the sound of rocks rolling down from surrounding mountaintops.

"It was a roar, like a helicopter was passing overhead," recounted farmer Domingo Sanchez, 21. "We didn't know what was happening, and then we went outside, and there were cracks opening the earth. We ran up the hill ... but soil kept coming down on us."

Chiapas state Gov. Juan Sabines, who visited the scene, described one of the waves as a "mini-tsunami" and noted "this village practically disappeared."

Helicopters searched the surrounding hills to rescue residents who fled to higher ground. Chiapas officials and the federal Interior Department placed the number of missing at 16. No bodies were immediately found. Federal Interior Secretary Francisco Ramirez Acuna said animals were responsible for saving some lives. A herd of cattle, sensing the impending landslide, began running uphill as if trying to escape. When people began to chase them, they unknowingly ran to safety, Ramirez told the Televisa television network.

The landslide followed a week of devastating flooding and heavy rains that left 80 percent of the Gulf coast state of Tabasco under water, destroying or damaging the homes of about half a million people.

On Monday, officials readied huge pumps to suck water from the inundated streets of the state capital, Villahermosa, while rescuers struggled to reach thousands still stranded days after one of the worst floods in Mexico's history.

U.S. President George W. Bush called Calderon on Monday to offer \$300,000 in emergency assistance to Tabasco and Chiapas.

50 Africans die trying to reach Spain after 18 days adrift

MADRID, Spain — Dozens of migrants trying to reach Europe spent 18 days adrift off the coast of West Africa and threw nearly 50 bodies overboard as their vessel lost power and food supplies dwindled, Spanish police said Tuesday.

The boat, which set out from Senegal with 150 people, was found Tuesday by a Mauritanian patrol boat, a Spanish Civil Guard official said. It was one of the highest death tolls this year among Africans trying to escape poverty and reach Europe's southern gateway.

When the vessel was found, there were 100 people aboard and two dead bodies, the official said under department rules barring her name from being published.

2007 becomes deadliest year for U.S. troops in Iraq War

BAGHDAD — The U.S. military on Tuesday announced the deaths of five more soldiers and one sailor, making 2007 the deadliest year for U.S. troops despite a recent downturn, according to an Associated Press count.

At least 853 American military personnel have died in Iraq so far this year — the highest annual toll since the war began in March 2003, according to AP figures.

The grim milestone passed despite a sharp drop in U.S. and Iraqi deaths here in recent months, after a 30,000-strong U.S. force buildup. There were 39 deaths in October, compared to 65 in September and 84 in August.

Five U.S. soldiers were killed Monday in two separate roadside bomb attacks, said Rear Adm. Gregory Smith, director of the Multi-National Force-Iraq's communications division.

In a third statement, American forces said a sailor died of injuries from an explosion Monday in Salahuddin province, north of Baghdad.

With nearly two months left in the year, the U.S. toll has already surpassed that of 2004, when 850 troops died — mostly in larger, more conventional battles like the campaign to cleanse Fallujah of Sunni militants in November, and U.S. clashes with Shiite militiamen in the sect's holy city of Najaf in August.

But the American military in Iraq reached its highest troop levels in Iraq this year — 165,000. Moreover, the military's decision to send soldiers out of large bases and into Iraqi communities means more troops have seen more "contact with enemy forces" than ever before, said Maj. Winfield Danielson, a U.S. military spokesman in Baghdad.

Astronauts limited in fixing Discovery's ripped solar wing

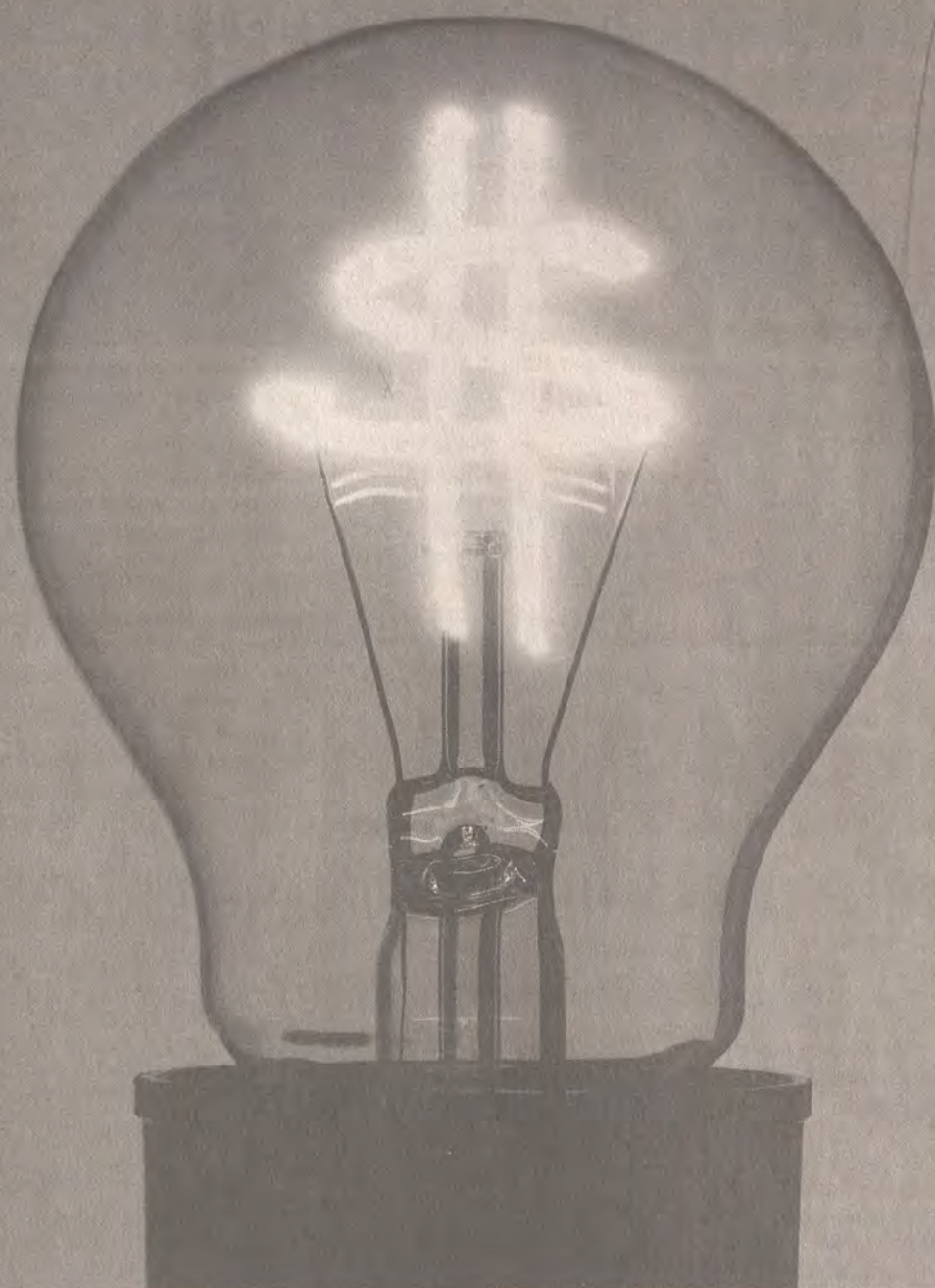
CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — With the mission finally coming to a close, Discovery's commander acknowledged Tuesday she was "extremely concerned" about the safety of the spacewalker who went out to fix the space station's ripped solar wing.

And the spacewalker, Scott Parazynski, said he barely managed to reach the tangled wires that had snagged the wing. If the damage had been just another foot away, "it would have been a Plan B or C or D," he told the Associated Press. "I don't know what it would have been."

As they prepared for an early Wednesday afternoon landing, the seven astronauts recalled for the AP the dramatic highlight of their 15-day space station construction mission.

Saturday's emergency repair of the torn wing at the International Space Station was an unprecedented and daring feat whipped up by flight controllers in just a few days. Discovery's commander, Pamela Melroy, described how nervous she was when Parazynski approached the torn wing on the end of a 90-foot robotically operated boom.

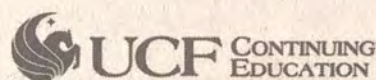
Parazynski said he could have used another pair of hands once he got right up to the solar wing, which was coursing with more than 100 volts of electricity.

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Location: Student Union
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For more information, please contact the Global Perspectives Office
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Senator takes interns

KEITH SPENCER
Contributing Writer

Florida Sen. Lee Constantine and the Student Government Association are accepting applications for an internship program for UCF students.

The Legislative Scholars Internship program, in its third year at UCF, offers students an opportunity to represent UCF in Tallahassee. While there, they shadow Sen. Constantine throughout his daily tasks.

During the Legislative session, March 5 to May 4, two interns will be chosen per week, a total of 16 in all. SGA will cover all travel expenses by providing a rental car and taking care of the hotel fares.

"It's a good opportunity for people interested in learning about the government and the Legislature," said sophomore accounting major Wendy Elliot. "It's also nice that it is an experience that is going to be paid for [by SGA]."

The specific itineraries of the internship are not yet prepared, but students can expect to have a fulfilling and memorable experience during their time at the Legislature, SGA



Constantine

Student Lobbying Coordinator Erik Kami said.

UCF students can also use the internship as an opportunity to experience the reality of a career in a state's capitol. The Florida Legislature is always looking for bright, hardworking individuals to work in office, Kami said.

The internship program is unique because it offers opportunities to see other branches of government in the Legislature, SGA Director of Governmental Affairs Maria Pecoraro said.

"If the schedule permits, [students] will be able to go see other committees Senator Constantine serves on, as well as attend meetings in which bills are being passed," Pecoraro said.

Kami said that he is very excited about the internship program.

"UCF is very fortunate to have Senator Constantine [a UCF alumnus] want to reach out and reconnect [with his alma mater]," Kami said.

"This experience will give students the chance to actually see what goes on in the state Capitol, as opposed to just hearing about it or reading about it in the news."

SGA hopes to have a large number of applicants. The organization will determine its selection of students based on resumes and interviews.

"We are looking for intelligent people [to choose for the program]," Kami said. "We want passionate individuals whose resumes show that they are well-rounded individuals open to opportunity and excited to learn."

"We're interested in people who have community service that shows who they are and not just what they've done."

Once the selected students leave campus, they are expected to abide by UCF conduct rules. They'll be provided with a guidebook that details the days' events and how to dress appropriately for each event.

Students of all years and majors are encouraged to apply. The application deadline is Dec. 3. Interested students can download the application at www.sga.ucf.edu.

Students won't be affected

FROM A1

they are seeking jobs.

"I think that it is helpful when we graduate with our nursing degree," sophomore nursing pending major Sarah Barry said. "They want to recognize UCF instead of other schools."

The change won't have any major impact on the students because the college was accredited in the past.

"It's not abundantly clear that it makes a large impact on the students," said senior nursing major Jim Robinson, who is in the accelerated nursing program.

The College of Nursing is limited access and the accreditation won't have an effect on the admissions to the college.



Gallagher

"All the processes remain the same," Leuner said. "It's still limited in terms of seats and resources."

Gallagher emphasized the importance of attending an accredited nursing college.

"It's a standard that you don't want to go to a nursing school that's not accredited," she said.

The commission based its decision on its ability to achieve five goals. The goals of accreditation are to hold nursing programs accountable; to evaluate the success of a nursing program in achieving its mission, goals and outcomes;

to assess the extent to which a nursing program meets accreditation standards; to inform the public of the purpose and values of accreditation; and to foster continuing improvement in the nursing programs — and thereby in professional practice.

Gallagher spoke highly of Leuner as the dean of the college.

"She's done so much for the College of Nursing and she's so good with the students," Gallagher said. "Dr. Leuner had a lot to do with accreditation going the way it did."

The College of Nursing has 850 students enrolled this semester. It was started in 1978 and moved from a department, to a school, then to a college.

Homeless man founds church

FROM A1

locks under the State Road 408 overpass off of Gore Street.

Rock for Hunger has a partnership with Volunteer UCF, which posts a schedule of its activities on the VUCF Web site. Students have shown up to feedings from the nursing program and the American Medical Students Association to help as a result.

"I look forward to coming out here all week," said Ben Bergholtz, 20, an English literature major who has been with the group for a year. "The hardest part about getting involved with volunteer work is getting started. Once you come out here it's very rewarding ... It's gotten pretty exciting feeding over 100 people a week and getting people jobs."

The group also provides services to help people get jobs and job training.

"We helped two guys get forklift certification courses, which will get them two full employment jobs," Goyzueta said. "For the job training they learn Microsoft Office, typing and other office skills, including how to write a resume."

The group pays an estimated \$150 out of pocket to the provide their services with food donations from Stonewood Grill and Tavern in Oviedo, the downtown plant of Crystal Springs donates bottled water and Tijuana Flats donates silverware whenever they run out.

Regular attendee and the backbone of the whole operation, according to other members, T. Jeter, a senior molecular and microbiology major, works at Stonewood, which provides a lot of the hot food by freezing bulk quantities of cooked leftovers, usually rice, potatoes and pasta on Sunday nights.



GREGORY TERRITO / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
Johnny Guzman (right), a victim of a debilitating spinal disease that has left him unemployed and out on the streets, shares a laugh with Adam Jasne of Rock for Hunger.

The group gets calls from people and organizations wishing to donate food and Jeter picks it up.

"I'm responsible for the hot food," Jeter said. "We cook frantically for an hour and rush it down here. It's a mad dash to try not to spill the French onion soup. Every corner is [nerve-racking] ... I guess this is my contribution to society."

On the menu for the night's feeding was salad with the choice of vinaigrette or ranch dressing, beans, mashed potatoes, fried onions, baked apples, whole apples and bananas, fish, garlic bread, soup, Capri Sun and Little Debbie oatmeal cookies.

Rock for Hunger Group boasts no political agenda, seeing homelessness as a series of fixable problems and their altruistic responsibility to do what they can.

"People don't have any excuse not to come out here," said Adam Jasne, 28, molecular and microbiology major. "I've actually run into people who are against feeding the homeless. Like I'm enabling it feeding people every Monday, so they won't get off the streets because I'm making it too easy."

"Some people make the argument that 'I don't give them money because they'll just use it to buy booze.' ... When was the last time you found being judgmental to be useful? It's not about why they're there, it's the fact that they're there at all and need help."

Brian Nichols, Pastor and founder of the First Vagabond Church of God and supporter of Rock for Hunger, agrees.

"There's the mentality that people don't have because they don't deserve," Nichols said. "It removes empathy toward another human being. Now they don't have any responsibility toward these people."

Nichols became homeless after a back injury that prevented him from continuing his work as a licensed handyman. Inspired by a church service in Heritage Park, he founded the First Vagabond Church of God and holds services in Langford Park near where he now owns a home.

"Do you know what the ironic thing is?" Nichols said. "I've done more for the community as a homeless person than I've ever done in the 27 years I wasn't."

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UCF student activists making a difference

Three women face similar challenges dealing with animal, human rights issues

MARIA DE VERA
Contributing Writer

They can be found standing outside the Student Union, handing out information on a certain issue.

They're on Facebook, forming groups and inviting people to join a cause.

And their fliers can be

found all over campus — they are student activists and they find many ways to spread their word.

Kayla Bloomer, Amanda LeClere and Donna Robinson are just three of the UCF student activists participating in events to bring awareness to human or animal rights causes.

Kayla Bloomer, Body of Animal Rights Campaigners

"When people hear activism," Bloomer, junior biology major and animal rights activist said, "a lot of people immediately think something radical, [such as] people yelling with signs and causing a scene, but what I've learned is activism can be as simple as living by example."

As co-president for Body of Animal Rights Campaigners, Bloomer has participated in several animal rights events, such as volunteering at Kindred Spirits Sanctuary, a farm-animal sanctuary in Ocala that helps abused, neglected and displaced farm animals.

She also holds vegan breakfast events at the Burnett Honors College. The breakfast events serve vegan pancakes, muffins, sausages and orange juice, among other foods. Bloomer said that this event is held to show students that vegan food can be just as normal as regular food.

As a strict vegetarian, Bloomer works to convince others to try the lifestyle because meat is consumed too excessively in this country, Bloomer said.

The majority of animals killed in this country for meat aren't killed out of necessity, Bloomer says, but out of desire.

One major project Bloomer is working on and hopes to accomplish is banning the Shrine Circus from campus, which uses animal acts for its show. She tried to persuade UCF President John Hitt at an open forum to forbid the circus act from coming to UCF.

Bloomer said she wrote Hitt letters, asking him to ban Shrine Circus from campus because of citations the company received from the United States Department of Agriculture.

"I even showed him pictures that I took last year at the circus, which had very obvious animal abuse and he still wouldn't ban it," she said.

Despite Hitt's decision to honor the contract with Shrine Circus, Bloomer refuses to give up and hopes UCF will find other alternatives to provide circus acts on campus that do not use animals.

Bloomer's activism has completely changed her outlook on life. In high school, she was someone who ate meat and thought that vegetarianism was a silly idea. Now, she carefully looks at labels of food and household products and educates others on issues like ethical consumption and animal testing. She said that activism doesn't necessarily mean changing your whole lifestyle — it can be as simple as not buying an animal product.

Amanda LeClere, Campus Peace Action and Nurture the Nations

A junior art education major, Amanda LeClere also considered herself a non-activist in high school. LeClere volunteered for the American Cancer Society and



COURTESY KAYLA BLOOMER
A woman holds a sign in an animal rights protest in front of Millican Hall on Sept. 17. The protest was aimed at getting UCF to cancel its contract with Shrine Circus.

with non-profit children's organizations, but only did so for school credit.

Now, LeClere is actively involved in Campus Peace Action and an event called Nurture the Nations, which celebrated the accomplishments of the United Nations.

LeClere got into human rights activism during her freshman year, when she participated in Project Darfur, a weeklong event that brought awareness to the genocide in Darfur. Her most memorable experience yet is when she met a survivor from the Darfur region.

"One of the [Darfur] speakers came and spoke to us and said, 'You guys are the only reason we keep fighting for this because if you guys aren't helping, then it's just us,'" LeClere said. "That was really rewarding to see the direct effects of your actions."

LeClere is also co-chair for Campus Peace Action, which protests the war in Iraq. LeClere said that Campus Peace Action can be misunderstood as an organization that is against American troops in Iraq, but she said that's not what it's about.

"There are people in the military that still don't understand that we support them," LeClere said. "We just don't support the war."

Nurture the Nations, which is part of United

Nations Association of the USA's annual event in Orlando, is another huge event LeClere has continued to participate in. This year, the event took place at the Trinity Preparatory School auditorium in Winter Park, where money was raised to provide mosquito nets for people in the Republic of the Congo, in partnership with an organization called Working Villages International. The theme was to combat infectious diseases like malaria.

LeClere said one of the biggest issues with putting on a fundraiser is acquiring the money for it and that's also one of the major challenges with activism. She said that's a sad thing about activism; it's an uphill battle.

"We put into this great event with art auctions and musicians, then we have to charge money to raise money and it's really hard, especially in a student area because you can't really get college students to come and pay \$15, even if it's a good cause," LeClere said.

Donna Robinson, Darfur Awareness at UCF

Putting on an awareness event takes a lot of time and effort for Donna Robinson, a senior anthropology major who plans to become a

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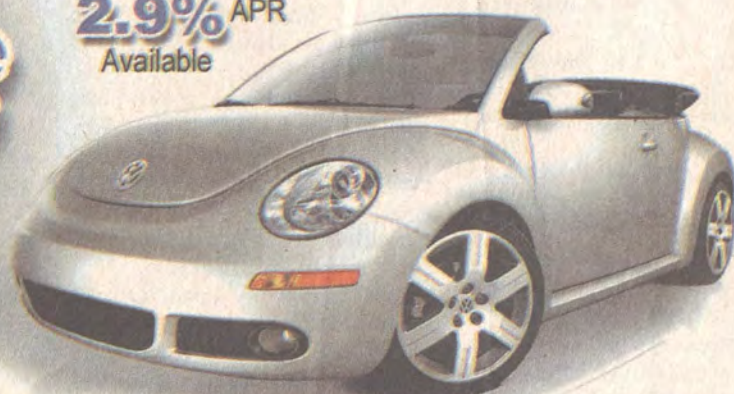
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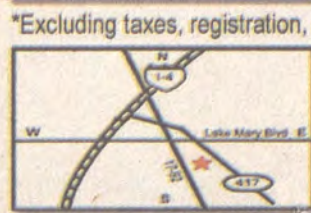
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Nation excited about tour

FROM A1

closer to the gold than ever before.

Nation made Team USA because she won the Junior Amateur Championship three times in a row. Nation said she owes all of those wins to Costello.

Costello, on the other hand, said that the team was successful and has produced continued success because of Nation's hard work at the national championships for the UCF team, where UCF placed second. Nation took the team far beyond where they ever thought they could go.

Aside from the world championships, Nation placed in the top 10 at the U.S.

Open for bowling and said she has placed in many other national tournaments.

For competition, the women's and men's national teams switch off on traveling due to lack of funding. Women travel on odd years and men on even. The women hope to expand their tours to more than the mini tour they are currently on.

Nation said the team would be particularly excited about traveling to Asia because bowling is as important there as football is here in the U.S.

Nation has bowled with Team USA in Germany, Guam and Mexico.

Nation knows how fortunate she is to be living her dream and she said that she has done a lot more than other

people her age.

Currently, Nation is an event coordinator at Boardwalk Bowl. She is on staff with Brunswick, a ball manufacturer and Vise, which supplies accessories for bowlers. She is also an assistant coach to Costello along with her former undergraduate teammate Kayla Lehman.

"She's [Nation] an amazing person, very driven," Lehman said. "She gets what she wants by working hard and doesn't take anything for granted — definitely one of the best teammates I have ever had."

Lehman and Nation bowled together through four years of undergraduate school.

Nation is currently working on her master's degree in

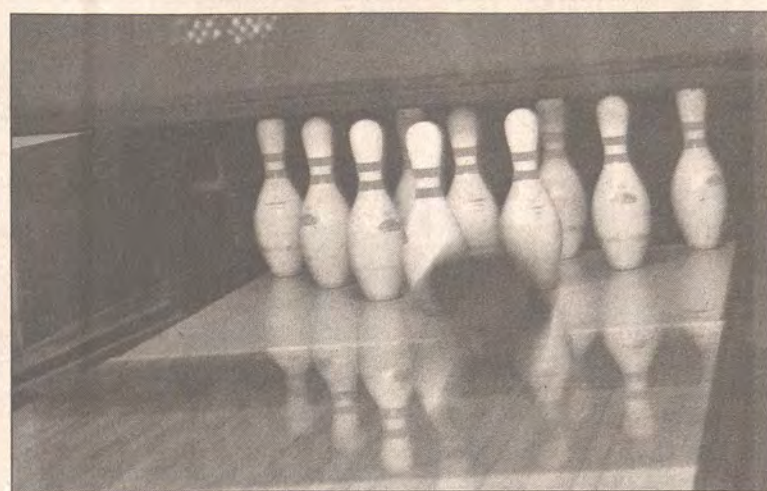
communications. She also works full time, competes, practices and occasionally finds time to have some fun.

Her life outside of bowling, Nation said, "is not as social as most college students."

She says that the team practices very hard but that members also realize the importance of having a well-balanced life.

Costello said that Nation is an ideal bowler.

"There's always that one special athlete that every coach wishes to have," Costello said, "not only because of their talent but also because of their positive attitude, and Stefanie was that one athlete for me. I've never had another like her."



ASHLEY KOEHLER / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
A bowling ball heads down the lane to smash into 10 pins. The ball was set in motion by Team USA bowler and UCF graduate student Stefanie Nation. She is currently on a PBA tour.

Activists bring awareness to Darfur

FROM A6

lawyer. Robinson is studying for the LSAT and is getting ready to go to law school. At the same time, she is organizing events to help the victims of Darfur.

As the president and founder of Darfur Awareness at UCF, Robinson focuses a lot of time on activism and informing people about genocide and despite the long hours and ongoing efforts, it's something she said is worth doing.

"I have a million and one things I could be doing, and being president and running this organization is very time consuming," Robinson said. "However, I'm really satisfied with my work and what the team has done because I know for a fact that I've made a difference."

Robinson has continually set up yard sales around Orlando to benefit Darfur victims. She held a yard sale

on Oct. 20 that raised more than \$200. A previous yard sale held this summer raised \$500, but was tripled to \$1,500 by World Vision, a Christian humanitarian organization.

Robinson also held an event on Oct. 23 with Kappa Alpha Psi, called "What about Darfur?" The theme for the event is knowing the important issues in life. Robinson said that people know too much about celebrities and not enough on local, national and international news.

Similar obstacles

Apathy is a challenge that Robinson, LeClere and Bloomer frequently face.

"Activism can be disheartening because when you're handing a flier or giving out information to people, a lot of times they'll just tell you that they just don't care," LeClere said. "I've had someone tell me things in Africa have to happen like that for us to live

like we do here."

Bloomer said activism is necessary for change. Activism is important because it's the only way to educate people and get things done, she added.

Bloomer, LeClere and Robinson can be found walking around campus and attending classes, just like any UCF student, but among the daily problems they worry about in life, they are always thinking about what they deem great social problems.

"As far as Darfur is concerned, I doubt I'll ever have the chance to go over there and let alone meet these people, but I think about them every day," Robinson said.

Bloomer, LeClere and Robinson know activism requires sacrifice and a lot of dedication, but they each said that the experience of helping others makes it all worth while.

"Activism isn't just something you go out and do," Bloomer said. "For me, it's a lifestyle."

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Potential 'first son' stops by to campaign for dad

FROM A1

and its next stop is South Carolina.

"With the bus, we're turning things around," Craig Romney said.

He said taking the bus is a great way to see the country and meet people.

"It's really fun and we've seen some amazing places," Craig Romney said.

The bus pulled into UCF an hour and a half behind schedule. Few students were aware of the visit.

Adam Lovejoy, a UCF alumnus and the Central

Florida Field director for the Romney campaign told the College Republicans about the visit to UCF.

Justin York, president of the College Republicans, was there to meet the Romney bus.

"I wish we had been able to get the word out," York said.

York said he wanted the entire student body to know.

"We need a more politically engaged student body," York said.

Edgar Robinson, the chair of the College Republicans, also came out to meet the Romney family.

"I'm glad he came out, and I hope more candidates come to campus," Robinson said.

The brothers are keeping a blog that they update on the Romney campaign Web site. So far they've visited 22 states and Washington, D.C.

Craig Romney said they've visited several college campuses along the way.

"They're exciting," he said.

The College Republicans said that they have been in contact with the Rudy Giuliani campaign about bringing Giuliani to campus in February.

"We have a good rapport with them," York said.



A student talking on his cell phone walks by "The Mitt Mobile," which stopped by the UCF Student Union on Monday. Driving the bus was Craig Romney, presidential candidate Mitt Romney's son. Mitt Romney's five sons have visited 22 states and D.C. so far.

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Offices in Oviedo and UCF Area

Some alumni left education for businesses

FROM A2

Secretary of Health from September 2005 to January 2007 and is the first Haitian-American to lead Florida's Department of Health. He was inducted into the UCF Athletics hall of Fame in 2005 for soccer.

•Alan Gooch was a UCF football coach for 21 years and currently is the president and chief executive officer of the Orlando Predators, an Arena Football League team.

•Paul "Van" Mitchell is principal of Orange County's Colonial High School and has worked in education for 33 years.

•Blaine Muse was a middle school teacher since 1974 and is



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Eric J. Smith

currently the superintendent for Osceola School District since 1998.

•Larry Shyers is a counselor with more than 37 years of experience where he maintains a private practice that focuses on helping children.

1970 distinguished alumni

•Barbara Barry is an elementary school counselor and homeless education coordinator at Grand Avenue Primary Learning Center in downtown Orlando.

•Roger Dearing has worked for 37 years as a professional



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Richard Ellenburg

educator and now is the superintendent of Manatee County Schools. He has been a math teacher, athletic director, coach and dean of students.

•Nancy Fuleihan is a member of the first graduating class of Florida Technological University. She taught for 35 years in Orange County Public Schools and has recently retired.

•Kathleen "Kat" Gordon is a former Orange County librarian and counselor. She now serves on the Orange County School Board.

•Mildred Kennedy served



COURTESY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Rony Francois

24 years as executive administrative assistant to three university presidents at UCF. She retired in 1990 and has since worked on an oral history project on the university.

•Candace Parker Dearing has worked in education for 35 years where she was Florida's Teacher of the Year in 1988. She has been a National Faculty Member, consultant to USA Today and an ambassador for education for the Florida Department of Education.

•Russ Salerno was one of the first students at FTU where he earned two degrees and taught at UCF until 1974. He is now the senior vice president for M&I Bank.

•Georgina Sanchez Williams came to the U.S. as a Cuban refugee in 1960. She qualified for the first master's degree program at the College of Education. She has also studied with a NASA program for teachers and with the U.S. Naval Academy.

•Mary Scott was among the first graduates of UCF. Her neighbor and university president, Charles Millican, drove her to campus. She has since been educating doctors on promoting their practice to establish a marketing campaign.

•Eric J. Smith has been a teacher, assistant principal and principal. He has also served as superintendent of four public school districts and now is a senior vice president for the Florida Board of Governors.

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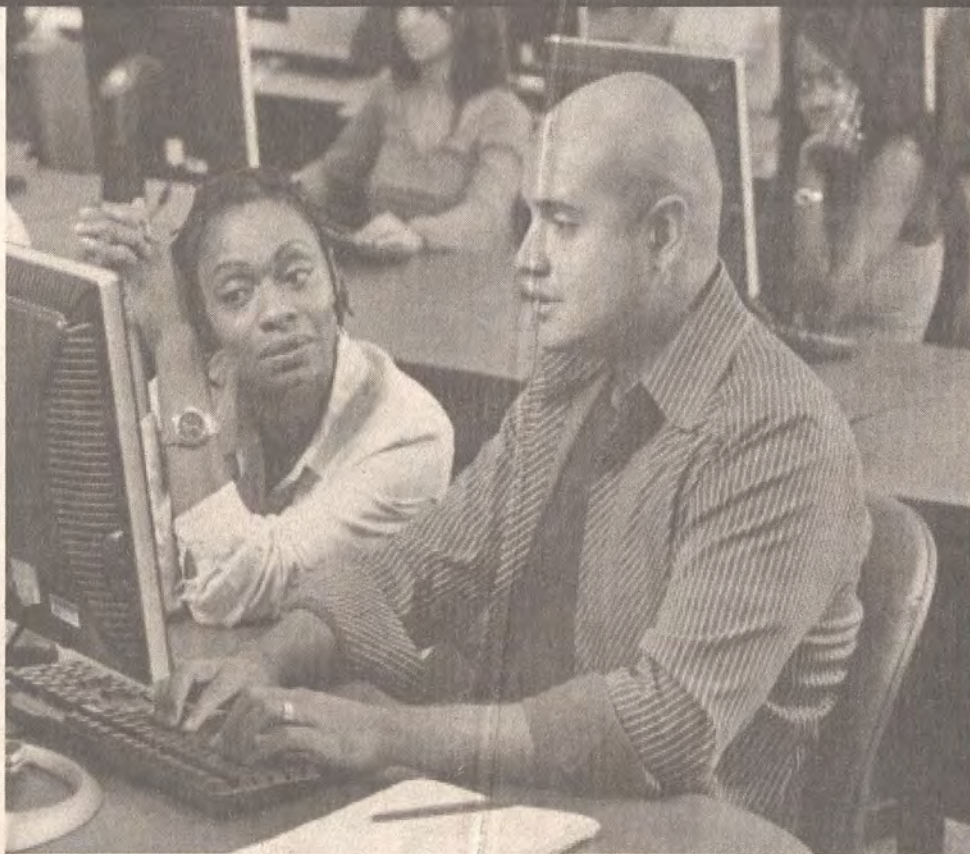
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Schedule

WOMEN'S SOCCER
EAST CAROLINA
TODAY

2 P.M. (AWAY)
The Knights face off against the Pirates in the first match of the Conference USA Championship. UCF beat ECU 1-0 earlier in the season.

MEN'S SOCCER

MARSHALL

FRIDAY
7 P.M. (HOME)
The Knights finish up their season with a home match against the Thundering Herd.

VOLLEYBALL
SOUTHERN MISS

FRIDAY
7 P.M. (HOME)
UCF will finish its season with a home-and-away series against the Golden Eagles. The Knights are still looking for their first conference win.



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

TEXAS TECH

FRIDAY

7:30 P.M. (HOME)

UCF will host the Lady Raiders in the first regular season basketball game in the New UCF Arena.



CROSS COUNTRY

NCAA SOUTH

REGIONALS

SATURDAY

10 A.M. (AWAY)

UCF heads to Gainesville for the final tournament of the season.



FOOTBALL

UAB

SATURDAY

7:30 P.M. (AWAY)

The Knights will take on the Blazers in Birmingham, Ala. UCF is looking for its fourth consecutive victory.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS



Mike O'Donnell, left, Jermaine Taylor and Dave Noel look not only to lead UCF to another successful regular season, but also to a deeper trip in the Conference USA Tournament, culminating with a bid to the NCAA Tournament. UCF's season starts Sunday versus Nevada at the New UCF Arena.

PHOTOS BY ANDY JACOBSON
/ CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Motivated Knights shoot for NAAs

BRIAN MURPHY
Staff Writer

Rice's Morris Almond created just enough distance from his defender to get his shot off. So, trailing by one with the season on the line, Almond hoisted up a 3-pointer from 27 feet away while falling to the floor.

He sunk it with 2.8 seconds left. It was elation for the Owls. It was dejection for the UCF Basketball team.

The Knights were the No. 2 seed headed into the 2007 Conference USA Championship Tournament, but they couldn't get out of the first round after the 53-51 defeat to the Owls on March 8. Almond's defender on that play was senior guard Dave Noel. He knows his team can use what happened in the past as motivation for the present.

"We feel like we could have went further, and we should of went further," Noel said. "But we took a loss early in the conference tournament. So from that, the way people were talking about us, it is definitely motivating us, so we're ready to go for this season and show people we should have gone further last year."

The Knights will only go as far as the

play and leadership of guard Mike O'Donnell will take them. He shot 43 percent from 3-point range last season and led the team in assists and steals. This season, O'Donnell will be UCF's lone captain. Having a vocal presence is critical to being a good leader, and that hasn't come easy to the soft-spoken senior, but head coach Kirk Speraw said he has gotten better in that area.

"He does a great job of setting the tone with his work ethic and what he brings energy-wise each and every day," Speraw said. "... so it has become easy for him to follow that up with the vocal side of leadership."

Noel has developed into one of C-USA's best defensive players. He is consistently asked to guard an opposing team's best scorer. In two regular-season games against the Owls, Noel was asked to contain Almond, and he held the conference's leading scorer and current member of the Utah Jazz to a combined total of 33 points.

Noel is not a true point guard, but he is a good ball handler and passer. His 85.4 free-throw percentage was second-best in C-USA last season.

Junior guard Jermaine Taylor is the

KEY OPPONENTS

NEVADA — SUNDAY AT HOME; DEC. 16 IN RENO
The Wolfpack have advanced to the NCAA Tournament in each of the last four seasons.

VILLANOVA — NOV. 22, OLD SPICE CLASSIC
The Wildcats are ranked No. 25 in the preseason ESPN-USA Today Poll.

CONNECTICUT — DEC. 28 AT HOME
The Huskies were the 2003-2004 NCAA Champions.

most dynamic and versatile player in the Knights' lineup. He is great at creating his own shot and is a solid long-range shooter who is explosive around the basket.

Taylor is the team's top returning scorer with an average of 12.7 points per game last season. He was the Knights' leading scorer in 12 games, but never started a game. Taylor has never started in any of the 60 games he has played for UCF. That will obviously change this season, but Speraw said Taylor needs to do some changing, especially mentally.

"He's got to slow himself down sometimes and be more patient from an offensive standpoint," Speraw said. "Defensively ... he's got to be a better helper and then recover out and contain the ball better. So there are an awful lot of things that

he can improve on his own plate. ... He has improved. But there's still a lot more growth that can happen with Jermaine."

The Knights' perimeter seems to be set with the likes of those three players along with senior guards Chip Cartwright and Mike Battle. Cartwright is the team's best point guard behind O'Donnell and is good at creating a spark off the bench with his speed.

Battle is a 3-point specialist who can play guard or forward. Forty of his 50 shots last season were 3-pointers.

With forwards Josh Peppers and Lavell Payne gone, the Knights have lost their two best frontcourt players. Peppers and Payne combined for 25 points per game last season. Their voids will be filled by junior Kenrick Zondervan and senior Stanley Billings, who combined for seven points per game last season.

"That's 25 points in between the two of us," Billings said. "We need to at least come up with that, or if not that much, create for everybody else to get that much to replace [Peppers and Payne]."

Zondervan started 30 games last season and brought lots of energy, but not a lot of production.

He said that he has worked hard to

PLEASE SEE **KNIGHTS** ON A11

Women's soccer to compete in Texas

PADRICK BREWER
Sports Editor

Heading into the Conference USA Championship today, the UCF Women's Soccer team will be looking to avoid its fate from last year, when they were ousted in the first round by seventh-seeded UAB.

The No. 1-seeded Knights (12-3-3 overall, 7-1-1 in C-USA) will face off against the eighth-seeded East Carolina Pirates (9-4-5 overall, 3-3-3 in C-USA) today at 2 p.m. in El Paso, Texas.

UCF looks to have a great chance of success heading into the tournament, as the Knights 22 goals scored in conference play — tied with Memphis and Colorado College for first — and have allowed only five goals to conference opponents.

Even though the Knights ended their season with a 2-0 victory over Southern Miss on Saturday, those two goals came on 15 shots on goal.

Associate head coach Colby Hale said he wasn't worried about any sort of failure to finish off potential scoring opportunities.

"So there are no concerns or

C-USA CHAMPIONSHIP
Inside the 3-day tourney

The Knights face off against the East Carolina Pirates at 2 p.m. today, the first match of the tournament.

Of the eight teams in the tournament, the only ones that UCF did not beat were Colorado College, which the Knights tied, and UAB, which beat the Knights 2-0.

Were the Knights to win today, they would face the winner of the Rice-UAB game on Friday at 7 p.m.

worries, its just having composure," Hale said. "And sometimes, when you play a team where you have a lot of chances, you lose focus a little bit, because you think 'we'll have another one.' The girls always play well when the stage is big. They always do."

The women who could step up today and throughout the tournament for UCF are sophomore forward Courtney Whidden, who is second in C-USA with 11 goals, and forward Yvonne George, who is second on the Knights with

PLEASE SEE **UCF** ON A11

Knights end losing skid

ZACH PARDES
Staff Writer

On Sunday, 49 shots were fired, no goals were scored and the Knights snapped an eight-match losing streak with a 0-0 tie against South Carolina in a match defined by fantastic goalkeeping and sensational offensive showdowns.

The contest began with heavy offensive pressure from the Knights (4-11-2 overall, 0-5-2 in Conference USA), earning them chances inside the box.

The Gamecocks (9-5-2 overall, 3-2-2 in C-USA) shifted the momentum 14 minutes into regulation time, testing freshman goalkeeper Sean Johnson with shots from all angles.

South Carolina's Blake Brettschneider put Johnson to work with two shots that were successfully turned away.

Johnson was tested again just four minutes later, turning a shot away from the right side by David Smith.

Two spectacular diving saves by Johnson kept the game even with fewer than three minutes remaining in the half.

The Gamecocks' Cory Lewis ran down the right side and fired a shot that sent John-



SHANNA FORTIER / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

UCF goalkeeper Sean Johnson collides with South Carolina's Josh Stewart in the Knights' 0-0 tie with the Gamecocks on Sunday. In the match, Johnson made a career-high 10 saves.

son diving across the goal to keep it from hitting its mark.

The ball took a South Carolina bounce off the rebound, allowing Daniel Upchurch to take a point-blank shot from 15 yards out. Once again, a diving Johnson kept the ball out of the net by tipping it just past the left post and across the end line.

"Sean played the best he's played all year," head coach Bryan Cunningham in a press release. "He rose to the challenge against a good South Carolina

team and he kept us in the game."

The second half began with a new defensive mindset, as neither team wanted to give up the go-ahead goal. Both teams took less risks and were less willing to pressure the ball to find scoring opportunities.

Despite the emphasis on defense, however, UCF had two shots on goal and one opportunity by Ryan Roushanel, when his shot from 23 yards went just

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UCF drops exhibition to Rollins

PADRICK BREWER
Sports Editor

The UCF Women's Basketball team dropped its only exhibition game of the year Sunday, when the Knights fell 82-73 to Rollins.

Despite building up a three-point lead at the half, the Knights were toppled by poor shooting and turnovers.

The Knights held a 43-40 advantage at halftime, but they shot just 41.9 percent from the field in the second half — compared to 53.3 percent by Rollins — and were outscored by 12.

UCF shot 46.8 percent from the field in the game — 21.1 percent from 3-point territory — and made 11 of its 17 free throws.

The Knights committed 24 turnovers, which Rollins turned into 32 points. UCF was able to get 16 points off of 18 Rollins turnovers.

The Tars shot a similar percentage from the line, but were sent to the line seven more times. Rollins took 15 free throws in the second half alone, almost the amount that UCF traveled to the line the entire game.

UCF was led by freshman Emma Cannon, who had 22 points on 10-of-14 shooting. She



UCF guard Jelisa Caldwell shoots a free throw in the Knights' 82-73 exhibition loss to Rollins on Sunday. Caldwell finished with 14 points, six rebounds and two assists.

also had seven rebounds in 28 minutes.

Jelisa Caldwell and Angelica Mealing — both freshmen as well — were the other Knights to score to in double figures.

UCF forward/center Tia Lewis led all players with 11 rebounds.

Rollins guard Jennifer Musgrove led all scorers with 24 points, and she also had nine rebounds.

Ines Teuma and Brittainy Daiger had 12 and 19 points respectively to round out the double-digit scorers for the

Tars.

The Knights start their regular season Friday at home against the Texas Tech Red Raiders.

UCF and Texas Tech both have coaches that are relatively new. Kristy Curry for the Red Raiders is entering her second year with the team, while the Knights will have first-year head coach Joi Williams at the helm.

But that is where the similarities end.

The Red Raiders feature a team that will return two starters and seven letterwin-

NEWS TO NOTE

FRESH FACES

The Knights have 10 freshman on their roster.

STARTING NEW

Along with a new coach, Joi Williams, UCF has only one returning starter.

ners. They have six players returning that averaged more than six points per game last year.

The Knights will have just one returning starter and only two letterwinners from last year.

Amber Long is the team's leading returning scorer with 5.8 points per game last year.

Ten freshman are on the UCF roster, and only two of the 13 players saw any playing time in 2006-07.

Those two players, Long and Jackie Akers, saw only 17 minutes of playing time combined in the loss to Rollins.

The game is scheduled to start at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the New UCF Arena.

It will be the first regular season basketball game played in the new complex.

Johnson excels to propel Knights to tie

FROM A9

wide of the right post 70 minutes into regulation.

Both teams tried desperately to put the game away in the

two overtime periods with a total of 15 shots that brought numerous scoring opportunities. The Gamecocks tallied eight shots in the second overtime, but goaltending on both

ends proved to be the difference in the game.

Johnson finished with a career-high 10 saves and his second shutout of the season.

The Knights end the regu-

lar season at home Friday when they face the Marshall Thundering Herd at 7 p.m.

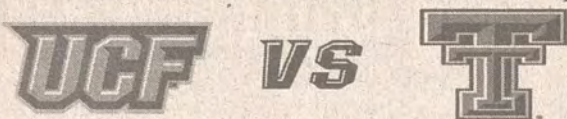
The Thundering Herd come in with an 8-8-1 overall record, 2-5-0 in C-USA.

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Volleyball drops 3-0 match to Thundering Herd

RYAN BASS
Staff Writer

After winning four straight matches in the UCF Invitational and winning six of their seven matches between Sept. 6 and Sept. 14, the UCF Volleyball team looked like it was on a roll.

Then came Conference-USA play. UCF proceeded to drop 14 of the next 15 matches. So what exactly happened to a team that looked like it had so much promise?

"I don't know if it's just one thing [that went wrong]," Erin Campbell said. "We are a really young [team]. This is a new level for a lot of kids. For me, this is my first year hitting. I played back row last year, I mean, I am a freshman to the front row.

"We are a young team and it was a good sign that we had good things in the [UCF Invitational]. It's just sometimes we lack the experience we need to push through [in matches]."

That inexperience followed into Sunday's match against Marshall. The Knights

dropped their eighth consecutive match — and 14th of the last 15 — at the hands of the Thundering Herd, who swept UCF in three consecutive games — 30-27, 30-21 and 30-24.

Campbell did all she could for the Knights, recording 15 kills and 16 digs — both team-highs. Stephanie Serna registered nine kills and Lauren Williams chipped in eight, as UCF hit .169 for the match and allowed Marshall to hit .341.

"I was trying to make as little errors as possible," Campbell said. "I just really wanted to get [Marshall] out of their system. My job at that time was to do everything I could possible: to get every ball in my zone up, pass every ball as well as I could and to swing fearlessly."

Campbell was a big part of the Knights' charge in game three. She combined for four of UCF's first nine points, as Marshall got out to the early 11-9 lead. After a kill by Serna brought the Knights to within three at 20-17, the Thundering Herd responded with a 5-1 run to force UCF into a timeout.

Campbell had nine of her

match-high 15 kills in game one, including three consecutive kills down the stretch but it wasn't enough for the Knights, as Marshall closed out the final frame to claim the victory.

"It was the passing breakdown [that killed us]," Campbell said. "We just have to really focus on what we were doing, and sometimes we lose sight of that, and I am not going to take away from [Marshall], they have great hitters, and they just went to work."

Kelly-Anne Billingsy was one of those hitters that really hurt the Knights.

Billingsy had a team-high 14 kills and hit .394 in the match. Marshall had three players record 10 or more digs and had a team total of 57 on the day.

Billingsy had four of her 14 kills in game one, but none of them early, helping UCF get out to the 7-4 lead.

After a Brueggemeyer kill tied the score at 11-11, the Knights went on an 8-2 run, capped off by a Campbell kill to put the game at 19-13.

"Our defense was amazing We were digging every-

thing they threw at us," Campbell said. "We were just sitting in the seams, and I think they kind of were a little surprised at that."

But it was the Knights who would become surprised by the end of the game. Marshall roared back and forced UCF to take a timeout tied at 24-24.

A service error by Billingsy tied the score at 26-26, but Marshall closed the game on a 4-1 run and took the Knights by surprise early in the match, taking a 1-0 advantage.

"We had some communication breakdowns, and some passing breakdowns killed us," Campbell said. "I know we had a tougher time defending [them], because the passing wasn't so great, so we weren't giving them great balls to get them out of their rhythm."

Marshall took that rhythm with them into game two. The Thundering Herd erased an early 4-1 lead by UCF, capping off an 8-2 run with a kill by Stephanie Cahill to put Marshall up 9-6. UCF tied the score at 12-12, but Marshall made another run this time at

12-3 opening up a lead of 24-15. Marshall then got a big performance from Uche Ndubisi to close the match. She had two of her nine kills down the stretch to take the lead going into the break.

The Knights, who are now 0-14 in Conference USA, will be playing two consecutive games against the Southern Miss Eagles, at home Friday and then on the road Sunday. Campbell thinks seeing the Eagles twice in a row may help the Knights close out the season on a win-

ning note and gain confidence going into the conference tournament.

"I think it will be an advantage to us, because we will see them on Friday, and we can build on what we did on Friday because they will not change things in one day," Campbell said. "It's too hard [to change things so quickly], and not many teams do it. We can really focus on what they did against us, and how we can counteract what they did and force them to make mistakes."

Knights have questions in interior

FROM A9

improve his offensive game, specifically his hook shot. He is stronger after gaining 35 pounds from the start of last season, which he hopes will help him post-up on offense and defense.

Billings can be the Knights' defensive enforcer if his body holds up. The 6-foot-11-inch center averaged fewer than 10 minutes per game last season, but had a team-high 20 blocks. He was slowed by injuries for all of last season, but he said he has gained muscle and is in much better shape now than at this time last season.

"Some teams are going to put all the pressure on the guards, so we can't rely on the guards to get all the points," Billings said. "We have to get some points from the inside

also. ... If we don't do it, who else is going to do it?"

The answer might be sophomore forwards Andre Thornton or Tony Davis. Thornton is a pretty good outside shooter for a 240-pound player. He made 14 of his 24 field goal attempts last season.

Davis is a strong rebounder for his size at 6-foot-7-inches. He averaged 13 minutes per game last season, but finished fourth on the team with 117 rebounds. He provides toughness and shot-blocking ability.

One name from the past who might contribute for the Knights is senior center Will Bakanowsky. Bakanowsky was a freshman during UCF's run to the NCAA Tournament in 2003. He missed the 2005-2006 season due to injury.

That seemed to end Bakanowsky's UCF career as

he graduated and went on to become a teacher following that season. But Bakanowsky, who is currently teaching at an Orlando middle school, has been granted another year of eligibility. No player on UCF's current roster has played with Bakanowsky in a game.

Speraw said Bakanowsky is rusty and out of shape, but he hopes Bakanowsky can contribute on the court this season.

The Knights were picked to finish seventh in the Conference USA Preseason Poll before last season and ended second. Although they lost two of their best players, the Knights return nine players who played last season, including five seniors. Yet, they were picked sixth in this year's preseason poll.

"We've been the underdogs since we've been here," Noel

said. "We like being the underdogs. We like proving people wrong, so we just take it as a test that makes us work harder."

Billings said the Knights are working hard to reach one goal: to get to the NCAA Tournament.

The Knights' start their season Sunday at the New UCF Arena versus the Nevada Wolfpack. Tip-off is slated for 2 p.m.

UCF to face East Carolina

FROM A9

eight goals and 21 points

Midfielder Becca Thomas, who had two assists against the Golden Eagles, finished the season with 10 assists, the eighth-most in UCF history.

The Knights' offense comes from a variety of different places. Eleven players have scored for UCF this season.

UCF's defense is headed by goalkeeper Jennifer Manis, who had her seventh shutout of the

year in the regular season finale against Southern Miss.

The Knights last played the Pirates on Oct. 7, when UCF won with 58 seconds left in the second overtime period on a goal from George.

If the Knights are able to make it past the Pirates, they would play Friday at 7 p.m. against the winner of the Rice-UAB game.

"Every next game is the most important game of our life," midfielder Kate Begley

said. "And that's the way we kind of look at things."

Although a strong showing in the conference championship would help UCF's chances at an at-large bid into the NCAA tournament, head coach Amanda Cromwell said that the team's main focus is the coming week's games.

"We have to prepare for whoever were going to play," Cromwell said. "As the tournament went last year, anyone can win the tournament."

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OUR STANCE

Disney: Where green comes true

The world has gone green — Disney World that is. The Walt Disney Company and Busch Entertainment Corp. went “green” and now Universal Studios announced its theme parks are going to go green as well.

It’s about time. Universal is the last of the theme park conglomerates to make the move.

But hey, it’s always better to be late than never show. It’s fantastic to see that this national “Green Week” campaign is paying off.

Not only is it raising awareness to the general population, but it also got a corporation like Universal to change some of its ways. Universal hasn’t been completely unfriendly to the environment.

These theme parks haul in millions — probably billions — of dollars entertaining people so the least they could do is spend that money in a positive way, which they are currently doing or aiming to do.

The companies are really just responding to their demographic so it seems to be a move solely for their own corporate preservation. Regardless, this selfish action can turn out to be very selfless. Not only will they be saving their corporation money, but making a dent in the environment as well.

They must be credited for their previous efforts to help the environment, after all these aren’t the only things they have done to make an impact. We shouldn’t neglect the past efforts that were made not only by these corporations but by regular everyday people.

Yes, environmental efforts did exist before Al Gore came along with his movie.

For example, remember Nickelodeon’s Big Help? We don’t mean to belittle Gore’s efforts at all: He has made quite the contribution. He went on a mission and people paid attention, more than ever, to the environment and the importance of going green.

The world is going green. Along with it, tourists are starting to care about eco-friendliness and these companies are aware of it.

Ady Milman, theme-park business professor of Rosen College of Hospitality Management told the *Orlando Sentinel*, that tourists are expressing their concern for the environment by picking destinations that are “green.”

The companies have been active before.

Universal has been recycling for years but now it will increase its efforts. It will also increase its energy-conservation efforts, use better cleaning products, explore solar energy and more.

Many of the efforts aren’t new; there is just an urgency to increase the activities because of recent increase of awareness.

One of Universal’s competitors, Busch Entertainment Corp., which owns both Sea World and Busch Gardens, has been a staunch supporter of wildlife conservation. Both theme parks revolve around wildlife conservation.

The company has funded research in the Arctic on female polar bear denning habits and general research on the beluga whale.

They’ve funded research on gorillas in Congo and a behavioral study of hyenas and lions in Kenya.

These are just a few exam-

ples and there are many more.

Disney, on the other hand, has not only dedicated their theme park, Animal Kingdom, to conservation, but has made changes in their company to support the green way.

The Disney park insists on their Web site that they have always been concerned with the environment and displays a video of Walt Disney speaking about the importance of wildlife conservation.

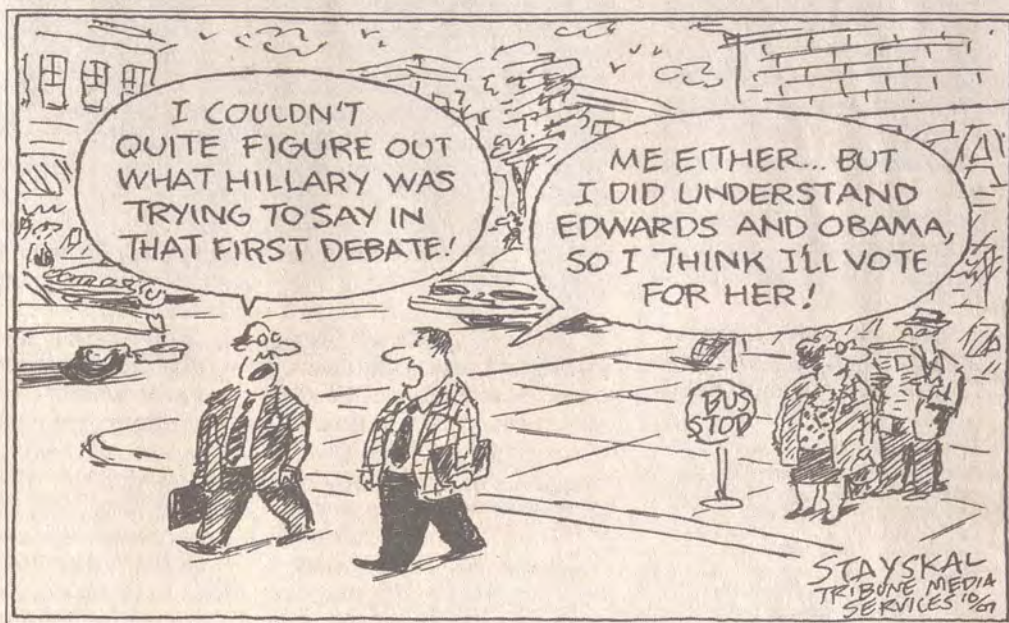
They’ve even coined a new term for their awareness issues, “environmentality.”

Disney has had multiple events about environmental issues. Earth Day is actively celebrated at all of the theme parks. They also have a month dedicated to it and in that month is Disney’s Environmental Awareness Day. Disney also works on waste minimization, water conservation, climate protection and nature conservation.

The company even holds an event called the Disney Commuter Transportation Fair, which educates and encourages employees to take public transportation or carpool to work for the sake of air quality.

Their efforts are noteworthy. It’s refreshing to hear about these large companies caring, whether it is for themselves or a genuine care for the environment. To put it quite plainly, at least it is being done. These efforts will be helping out because of the amount of people they cater to each year.

We as a society give our money to these companies and expect a good time. In return not only are we getting what we paid for, which is fun and memories, but we will be getting much, much more.



WAYNE STAYSKAL / TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

READER VIEWS

SGA leaders express concern over column

We would just like to express our disappointment about the opinions article in Monday’s issue about the Homecoming Concert. There are a number of statements in this article that are incorrect and we would like to take the responsibility to inform the student body of the correct information.

The Student Government Association did not bring Fall Out Boy to the New Arena for Homecoming Week.

The Homecoming Committee made this decision to purchase tickets to the concert that the UCF Arena was already bringing during Homecoming Week. Homecoming is an agency of SGA that has their own budget with chairs and committee members that make their own decisions. The Activity and Service Fee Budget Committee allocates the Homecoming budget to the Homecoming committee the spring semester before that Homecoming year and it is up to the Homecoming committee to decide on the various acts and venues for that year’s Homecoming. So, to criticize SGA for the Homecoming Concert is completely out of line.

The UCF Arena had already planned to Bring Fall Out Boy, Gym Class Heroes, Plain White T’s, and Cute is What We Aim For on this day, which was during Homecoming Week. Knowing that the Homecoming Committee could not compete with or afford these acts, they bought tickets for the student body to attend this concert. As far as voting for Homecoming acts is concerned, we were informed by a Homecoming Executive Board member that there was in fact a survey made available online to the student body that more than 1,000 students completed for the Homecoming Concert. This survey is made available and widely publicized every year.

We were also surprised by the comparison made of those running in Student Government elections to “carnies in a state fair.” These students are running in hopes of becoming leaders at UCF. They are trying to make a difference on our campus and make positive change by being elected to either the Student Body Senate or elected as Student Body President or Vice-President. It is because of their efforts that we have one of the highest voter turnouts for student elections in the state! UCF students deserved to be commended for this. Also, to allege that students are being attacked by campaigners is concerning and we would hope that any student that feels this way would bring this to the attention of their SGA leadership and to the attention of the Student Government Elections Commission.

In conclusion, we hope the distinction has been made clear. Homecoming Committee, while funded by the Activity and Service Fee Budget, is not SGA. Student Government supports Homecoming as it would with any agency (e.g.: the Recreation and Wellness Center, Campus Activities Board, etc.), but is not responsible for making decisions on acts, venues, T-shirt colors, where and when homecoming paraphernalia is distributed or any other aspect. In the future, we hope that when opinions articles are submitted that writers do what is right for the student body and submit information that is factual and reliable.

BRANDIE HOLLINGER AND LOGAN BERKOWITZ
STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

Homecoming criticism comes unmerited

Being a UCF student, I read the *Central Florida Future* weekly and enjoy it. However, I was incredibly outraged when I read the article by Jennifer Larino bashing the Homecoming concert.

Admittedly, I am not a major fan of Fall Out Boy. Even so, their concert was fantastic. I can not even remember who was at last year’s Homecoming concert, but this year was different. SGA brought

major bands, which had been on the top of the charts for quite a while. Every other article I have read about the concert agrees with what I have heard from many other students. The bands were awesome.

Although this article was in the opinions section of the newspaper, the writer was biased in her efforts to criticize Fall Out Boy. The writer of this article should have attended the concert before she started bashing it. After all, it was a free concert.

I do agree with her that it would be a new and interesting idea to have a vote for the Homecoming Concert. The problem with that though, is very few people would vote. The same thing happens with voting for SGA positions and Homecoming King and Queen. A large number of people ignore it. I hope that next time Larino gets all the facts and actually attends an event before she begins to criticize it.

DANA WILSON
BIOLOGY

Student: SDS doesn’t fulfill its constitution

Reading through the Port Huron Statement — the constitutional document of Students for a Democratic Society — I’m moved by the eloquence with which Tom Hayden argues for a more just and open participatory democracy.

“Participatory democracy,” he writes, “is based in [the] root principle ... that decision-making of basic social consequence be carried on by public groupings.”

So while the United States Democratic Party is literally invalidating our primary votes here in Florida, what is SDS at UCF doing? Dressing up in costumes, throwing tomatoes at each other and harassing Burger King customers.

Hayden must be rolling over in his grave right now.

DAVID HELMS
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Again, correlation isn’t always causation

In regard to the recent article “Sticking to our (figurative) guns,” I would like to point out something that should have been taught in your earliest science classes: correlations do NOT equal causation.

Just because there is a correlation between gun-owning students and reckless and irresponsible behavior does not mean that gun ownership makes students reckless and irresponsible. It is completely plausible — and makes more sense — that the reckless and irresponsible students are more likely to own guns for protection, because they feel they need to be protected from something or someone. These types of people will carry guns no matter what.

My interest is in seeing careful, responsible students carrying guns (yes, even on campus.) The most ardent opponents of guns on campus are precisely the kind of people I want to see with guns, because they tend to be safety-cautious.

Opponents of gun ownership, in general, help to perpetuate the stereotypes of gun owners. The study cited in your article reinforces those stereotypes and also implies that all gun owners are criminals, at least within the context that you decided to use it. These stereotypes discourage the ownership and carrying of firearms by precisely the people we want to see with guns.

I could see how the study supports my argument, that the ownership and carrying of guns by students on campus should be allowed and, moreover, encouraged. It is not that we need fewer dangerous gun owners; those will always be present no matter what we do. It is that we need more safe and responsible gun owners.

HEIDI RAE HOSMER
POLITICAL SCIENCE/PSYCHOLOGY

The *Future* encourages comments from readers. In order to be considered for publication, letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words; we may edit for length. Submit them online at www.CentralFloridaFuture.com or fax them to 407-447-4556. Questions? Call 407-447-4558.

No college student should be left behind in registration

It’s that time of year again. Class registration. Oh, wait. I guess that’s not the case for everybody.

For about a week now, I’ve listened to friends tell me they have to get ready to sign up for classes. And for a week I was very confused, usually responding with something like, “Why didn’t you sign up last semester like you were supposed to?”

Well, that’s because I had forgotten the horrible, terrible, no good decision the university implemented last year that would prohibit anyone with less than a 3.5 GPA to sign up for classes two semesters ahead of time.

As if creating multiple-term registration wasn’t bad enough, the university had to punish those students who are already struggling in the first place.

So now, those with above a 3.5 can register for three semesters at once, while those with below a 3.5 can only register one semester at a time.

I can’t really say how this affects me, because fortunately, it doesn’t. But for those students who are affected by this, it’s simply not fair.

Don’t get me wrong. I’m all for rewarding students for strong academic showings, but that’s just not the way to do it.

Since I can remember, signing up for classes has never been a quick and easy process. Classes are always full, some aren’t offered the semester you need them and overrides are never available.

If UCF thinks that allowing “honors” students to sign up in advance is going to solve this, they’re severely mistaken.

More importantly, it seems to punish those students who are essentially already struggling in the first place.

By the time these students are able to sign up for classes, they are going to be left with the bottom of the barrel. The classes they probably intended on taking will be full and they will be stuck taking classes that they aren’t pleased with.

What do you think that will translate into?

Those same students whose GPAs are already



MELISSA HEYBOER
Editor-in-Chief

struggling will essentially be even more in jeopardy when they don’t feel the need to “try” in their classes. In turn, this will be because they weren’t able to sign up in time to take their choice classes.

Tell me where the logic in that is? Can’t find it can you?

According to the UCF Web site, the change was made for the following reasons:

— Students were concerned about having to register so far in advance for courses.

— Advisers and administrators were concerned that many students were not going for proper advising during the school year.

— So that you would get to know your academic adviser.

Hmmmm. Tell me, do any of those reasons pertain to a 3.5 GPA? Doesn’t look like it. So maybe the university can’t justify what it’s trying to do either.

In all honesty, this registration system that UCF has put into place screws almost everyone over.

Even those student who are succeeding with an above 3.5 GPA have to worry about planning ahead for three semesters. That may seem easy, but take it from me, it’s not.

Students’ schedules change all the time. To plan in the spring what you might be doing almost a year later is absurd — and nearly impossible. Students wind up signing up for classes just to fill their schedule and don’t return to it until that semester. In other words it’s clogging up classes that some students may actually need to be taking.

Fortunately for me, I’ll be graduating in the spring and really won’t have to worry about this much longer.

It seems like the system altogether is a failure. UCF needs to go back to the good old days when worrying about registering for classes wasn’t a battle over GPA. That should be left for high school.

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125 HELP WANTED: Part-Time

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3Bed avail in house. 5 min from UCF! Kitchen and living room furnished Bedroom size: 13x10. h/s internet, W/D, cable incld. \$500/mo Call 407-435-4892 or 407-435-4904

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Seeking two n/s roommates (m/f) in a gated community close to the UCF campus. One room available immediately and the other on 12/15. Spacious 3/2.5 townhome in Avalon Lakes. \$600/month everything included. Call Mike @ (954) 234-3953

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Roommate to share all new 2/2 Condo- furnished,wood floors, cath. ceilings,new appliances,w/d, pool,gym,tennis ct. 1/2 mile from UCF,utilities,cable included. \$650 call Josh @813-763-2056 jclmmons@inbox.com

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Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats.

Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com.

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14 Tiniest bit
15 Curved molding
16 Actress Shearer
17 Lowest pinocchle card
18 "Wild at Heart" star Laura
19 Panache
20 Going in
22 Beef source
23 Esteem
24 Physical magnitude
25 Language suffix
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35 Towel word
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39 Conclusive
40 Trading centers
41 Caries spotters
43 Links standard
44 Eye part
45 Elton and Peter Pan
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54 Clan division
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56 Alpine song
57 On the waves
58 ERA or RBI
59 Squallid
60 Jung or Sagan
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Last issue solved

Solution and new puzzles in next issue's Classifieds

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500 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Health Services Administration Student Association MEETING!! When: Nov. 7, 2007 6:00 pm Where: HPA II #247 Career Workshop! Career services will be joining us at this month's meeting to discuss job search strategies, resume pointers, and job interview techniques. Questions? HSASAatUCF@gmail.com

600 TRAVEL

* #1 Spring Break Website! 4 & 7 night trips to BahamaPartyCruise, PanamaCity, Acapulco, Cancun and more. Low prices guaranteed. Group discounts for 8+. Book 20 people, get 3 free trips! Campus reps needed. www.StudentCity.com or 800-293-1445.

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Dance Performances

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